

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 14703 111854Z
ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1052
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14703

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, GW, YO
SUBJECT: FRG-YUGOSLAV REQUESTS FOR EXTRADITION

REFERENCE: BONN 14597

1. ON AUGUST 11, A COLOGNE COURT RULED THAT CROATIAN
EXILE STEPAN BILANDZIC COULD BE EXTRADITED TO YUGOSLAVIA.
AS NOTED REFTEL, THE FINAL DETERMINATION IN THE CASE
RESTS WITH THE FRG. THE COURT FOUND SUBSTANTIATED,
CHARGES THAT BILANDZIC, WHO HAS BEEN IN THE FRG SINCE
1958, HAD FOUNDED A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION, PARTICIPATED
IN A MURDER ATTEMPT ON THE YUGOSLAV VICE CONSUL IN
DUSSELDORF IN 1976 AND HELPED PLAN VARIOUS TERRORIST
ACTS IN YUGOSLAVIA.

2. A DAY EARLIER, ON AUGUST 10, A KARLSRUHE COURT RULED
THAT THERE WAS INSUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO ARREST ILLYA
PAPAC, ANOTHER OF THE EIGHT CROATIANS WHOSE EXTRADITION
HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY BELGRADE. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF
BILANDZIC, NONE OF THE CROATIANS ARE PRESENTLY IN POLICE
CUSTODY.

3. COMMENT. PRESSURE NOT TO RETURN BILANDZIC TO WHAT
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PAGE 02 BONN 14703 111854Z

SOME DESCRIBE AS THE CERTAIN DEATH THAT AWAITS HIM IN
YUGOSLAVIA IS COMPOUNDED BY CHARGES THAT GOY AGENTS
ATTEMPTED TO MURDER HIM LAST YEAR (PARA 8, REFTEL). ON
THE OTHER HAND, THE CHARGES AGAINST BILANDZIC ARE
SERIOUS, REFUSAL TO EXTRADITE HIM WOULD BE A BLOW TO
FRG-GOY RELATIONS, AND THE GERMANS ARE ANXIOUS TO OBTAIN
THE EXTRADITION OF THE FOUR BAADER-MEINHOF TERRORISTS.

ON BALANCE, WE BELIEVE THE FRG WILL EXTRADITE BILANDZIC.
MEEHAN

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